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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: 71084

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant Serial No

: ABELS et al. : 10/632,017

Confirm. No

: 9343

Filed

: July 31, 2003

For

: BALL-AND-SOCKET JOINT

Art Unit

: 3679

Examiner

: Ernesto Garcia

Dated

: December 14, 2004

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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<u>AMENDMENT</u>

In response to the Office Action dated July 15, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows: